

Items imported from neighbouring countries

2370. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether we are importing some items from neighbouring countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of items imported from and exported to Pakistan for the past five years; and
- (d) has any policy change been effected after the aftermath of Kargil war by Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) India is importing a variety of products from the neighbouring countries, which include major products like fertilizers, chemicals, iron and steel, machinery, electrical goods, wood and wood products, natural rubber, pulses etc.

(c) The trade figures between India and Pakistan during the last five years are given below:

(value in Rs. Crores)/Provisional

Year	India's Exports to Pakistan	India's imports from Pakistan
1995-96	256.97	150.92
1996-1997	558.12	128.36
1997-98	532.02	165.19
1998-99	446.38	902.19
1999-2000	405.35	296.74

Source: DGCI and S

Major items imported from Pakistan include sugar, fruits and nuts, spices etc. Major items exported to Pakistan from India include oil meals, spices, drugs and pharmaceuticals, dyes and intermediates, coalter chemicals, rubber manufactured products etc. Details of item-wise export and import are given in the monthly publication, "Foreign Trade Statistics of India", brought out by the Directorate

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General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, which are available in the Parliamentary Library.

(d) It is understood that the trade Policy announced by the Government of Pakistan for the financial years 2000-2001 includes some changes impacting on trade with India.

Production of cement in India

2371. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the production of cement in India during each of the last five years;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the cement units have been sold to foreign multi-national companies; and

(c) if so, the names of the MNCs and the units purchased by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) The production of cement for the last five years is given below:

Year	Cement Production (in Million tonnes)
1995-96	69.63
1996-97	76.22
1997-98	83.16
1998-1999	87.91
1999-2000	100.45

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir, The position is given as under:—

<i>Multinational companies</i>	<i>Units purchased from</i>
1. <i>Lafarge</i>	<i>TISCO</i>
2. <i>Italcementi</i>	<i>Zuari Cement (50%)</i>